

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all previous versions of the claims with the following listing:

1. (Previously Presented) An actuator comprising:
a tubular portion extending in a longitudinal direction, the tubular portion comprising a body of an elastomeric material arranged between two electrodes, wherein any line of symmetry extending between two opposite points on a periphery in a cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal direction has a length which is different from any other such line of symmetry.
2. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 1, wherein the tubular portion is formed by rolling up a sheet comprising at least two elements each comprising a body of an elastomeric material and an electrode attached to a first surface thereof, wherein deformation of the body is restricted in a first direction and supported in a another, second, direction.
3. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 2, wherein the second direction is parallel to the longitudinal direction.
4. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 2, wherein the first direction is substantially perpendicular to the second direction.
5. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 2, wherein the body and the electrode comprise corrugations extending in the first direction.
6. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 2, wherein the sheet comprises:
 - an element of a first type comprising a conductive terminal of a first type being in electrical contact with the electrode of the element
 - an element of a second type comprising a conductive terminal of a second type being in electrical contact with the electrode of the element,

wherein the conductive terminal of the first type is electrically isolated from the conductive terminal of the second type when the elements are stacked.

7. (Currently Amended) The actuator according to claim [[2]]6, wherein the:
- element of the first type further comprises a conductive terminal of a second type being electrically isolated from the electrode of the element, and wherein
 - the element of the second type further comprises a conductive terminal of a first type being electrically isolated from the electrode of the element,

wherein the conductive terminals of the first type are in mutual electrical contact and the conductive terminals of the second type are in mutual electrical contact when the elements are stacked.

8. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 6, wherein the conductive terminals of the first type cover a first peripheral rim portion of the body of an elastomeric material, and the conductive terminals of the second type cover a second peripheral rim portion of the body of an elastomeric material.

9. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 6, wherein elements of the first type are arranged alternately elements of the second type.

10. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 2, wherein the tubular portion is formed by rolling of the sheet around a core of an elastomeric material.

11. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 1, wherein the tubular portion is filled with a core of an elastomeric material.

12. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 11, wherein the core is softer than the elastomeric material forming the tubular portion.

13. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 11, wherein the core is made by filling a cavity limited by the tubular portion and two closure parts with a liquid elastomer material which is subsequently hardened while the tubular portion is stretched axially.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) An actuator comprising:
an elastomeric material arranged between two electrodes forming a tubular portion extending in a longitudinal direction and having a cross-section, wherein the cross-section of the tubular portion is asymmetrical.

17. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 16, wherein the tubular portion is formed by multiple layers of elastomeric material and electrode.

18. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 17 wherein the tubular portion comprises elements of a first type and elements of a second type.

19. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 18 wherein:
the element of the first type comprises a conductive terminal of a first type;
and
the element of the second type comprises a conductive terminal of a second type,

wherein the conductive terminal of the first type is offset from the conductive terminal of the second type when the elements are stacked.

20. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 16 wherein the elastomeric material has at least one corrugated surface.

21. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 20 wherein the corrugated surface is molded.

22. (Previously Presented) The actuator according to claim 21 wherein at least one electrode is deposited on the corrugated surface of the elastomeric material and forms electrode corrugations corresponding to the corrugations of the corrugated surface of the elastomeric material.